

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
17 February 2005 (17.02.2005)

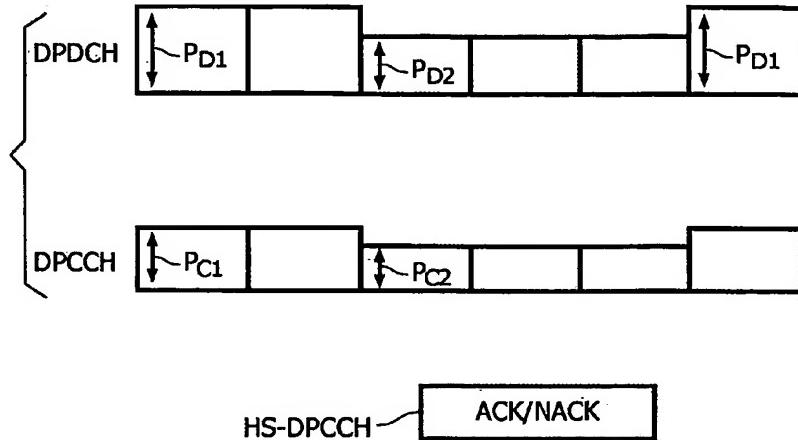
PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/015768 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **H04B 7/005**
- (21) International Application Number:
PCT/IB2004/002630
- (22) International Filing Date: 4 August 2004 (04.08.2004)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
0318735.8 11 August 2003 (11.08.2003) GB
0410905.4 14 May 2004 (14.05.2004) GB
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- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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(54) Title: POWER MANAGEMENT IN MOBILE TERMINALS TO ALLOW TRANSMISSION OF ACK/NACK SIGNALS



(57) Abstract: A communication system, for example UMTS (Universal Mobile Telecommunication System), comprises a base station and a plurality of mobile stations. In normal operation the mobile station continuously makes uplink transmissions on certain spread spectrum channels (DPDCH, DPCCH). The maximum allowed power (Pmax) for these uplink transmissions is specified. However there are occasions when for example receiving packet data from the base station, the receiving mobile station has to transmit an acknowledgement (ACK) or a Non-acknowledgement (NACK) at a power level specified by the base station. In order to keep the transmit power of the mobile station within the maximum allowed power, the total power required to transmit an ACK or NACK in parallel with the continuous uplink signals is determined and if this exceeds Pmax then at least the power DPDCH and DPCCH channels are scaled to allow sufficient power for the transmission of an ACK or NACK. The power scaling is carried-out based on the power required for whichever one of ACK or NACK requires the most power. This avoids reducing the amount of time available to a mobile whether an ACK or NACK should be transmitted.

WO 2005/015768 A1

**Declaration under Rule 4.17:**

- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ,*

BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)

Published:

- *with international search report*

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